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DERWENT  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

*For the Year 1948.*

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SELBY:  
E. M. RIMMINGTON LTD., "EXPRESS" OFFICE.  
1949

The Chairman and Members of the Derwent  
Rural District Council.

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I have pleasure in submitting my Report  
upon the health of the Rural District for the  
year 1948.

W. Bertram Hill.

## DERWENT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Councillor J. Elmhirst, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor G. A. Horsfield.

## HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Councillor J. F. Hardy.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor G. A. Horsfield.

Sanitary Inspector:

GEORGE CHARNLEY,

Cert. S.I. Board,  
Cert. Meat and Food Inspection R.S.I.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. BERTRAM HILL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—12,580 (Mid-year 1948).

			Derwent Rural District		England and Wales	
Death Rate	....	....	9.14 per 1,000	....	10.8	
Birth Rate	....	....	15.1	„	17.9	
Infantile Mortality Rate	....		57.5	„	34	
			(i.e., Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births).			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....		.15	„		
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			.00	„		
Cancer Death Rate	....	....	1.2	„		
Respiratory Death Rate	....		.71	„		
Zymotic Death Rate	....		.00	„		
Still Birth Rate	....	....	.39	„	.42	
Diarrhoea	....	....	10.2	„	3.3	
			(Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births).			

### Maternal Mortality.

Per 1,000 total births.

Puerperal Sepsis	....	.00	„	....	.29
Other Causes	....	.00	„	....	.73

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Average No. of cases for 5 yrs.		Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
1934—1938	....	8	17	2.7	.5
1939—1943	....	8.2	18.6	2.4	.8
1944	....	6	27	3	1
1945	....	—	18	3	—
1946	....	3	18	3	1
1947	....	—	16	2	—
1948	....	—	17	1	—

Poliomyelitis.—1 case was notified: recovered with some disability.

Measles.—36 cases were notified: there were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.—33 cases were notified: there were no deaths.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Average Notifications in		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1934—1938	....	....	9
1939—1943	....	....	6.2
1944	....	....	5
1945	....	....	10
1946	....	....	11
1947	....	....	2
1948	....	....	12

## CASE RATE PER 1,000 LIVING OF ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

		England and Wales	Derwent Rural District
Typhoid Fever	....	.01	.... .00
Para Typhoid Fever	....	.01	.... .00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	....	.03	.... .00
Scarlet Fever	....	1.73	.... 1.35
Whooping Cough	....	3.42	.... 2.62
Diphtheria	....	.08	.... .00
Erysipelas	....	.21	.... .07
Small Pox	....	.00	.... .00
Measles	....	9.34	.... 2.86
Acute Poliomyelitis	....	.04	.... .07
Acute Polioencephalitis	....	.00	.... .00
Pneumonia	....	.73	.... .55
*Puerperal Fever	}	6.89	.... .00
Puerperal Pyrexia			

\* Per 1,000 total live and still births.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Under the terms of the National Health Service Act, Diphtheria Immunisation is the responsibility of the County Council. The County Medical Officer has supplied me with the undermentioned figures which show the number of children resident in the Rural District who were known to have been immunised up to 30th December, 1948.

**Number of Children at 31st December, 1948, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1934).**

Age at 31.12.48 i.e., Born in year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-43	10 to 14 1934-38	Total under 15
Number Immunised	8	93	136	142	142	707	718	1946
Estimated mid-year child population 1948			Children under five			Children 5-14		
			1018			1673		2691

## DISINFESTATION.

Owing to the very small number of cases being sent for treatment and the consequent high cost per patient, the Council has discontinued the use of the Centre at the Barlby Depot, and has made arrangements with the West Riding County Council for the treatment of cases of Scabies at the County Institution in Selby.

One case only was treated during the year.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply of the District is obtained from:—

- (a) A neighbouring Local Authority;
- (b) A Private Water Company;
- (c) and to 69 houses from a Deep Box Well situate on a Private Estate.

The Water supplied by the Local Authority and the Private Water Company is chlorinated.

There is a degree of inadequate Supply of Water in the Parish of Stillingfleet, and the matter is under consideration by the Council.

The question of extending the public mains to certain out-lying farms is also being considered.

Regarding the Supply on the Private Estate, it was found during the year that the quality of the water was very unsatisfactory. Attempts to effect improvement were made in the cleaning of the storage tanks, etc., and some degree of improvement was obtained, but the bacteriological content remained unsatisfactory. The owner was advised to install a chlorination plant, and this has been carried out and subsequent bacteriological examinations have proved satisfactory.

**Details of the Water Supply of each Parish in the Rural District.**

PARISH	N <sup>d</sup> . of Houses	Cat. 1 No. of Houses supplied direct from public main	Cat. 2 No. of Houses supplied from stand-pipes	Cat. 3 No. of Houses supplied from other private sources	Population figures for respective categories		
		Cat. 1	Cat. 2	Cat. 3	Cat. 1	Cat. 2	Cat. 3
Barb <sup>y</sup>	854	833	14	Nil	3162	51	Nil
Cliffe	239	203	7	Nil	717	28	Nil
Deighton	51	36	Nil	Nil	161	Nil	Nil
Dunnington	273	180	22	Nil	637	78	Nil
Elvington	114	89	9	Nil	305	33	Nil
Escr <sup>ick</sup>	138	48	Nil	69	202	Nil	255
Hemingbrough	187	148	7	Nil	538	26	Nil
Kelfield	96	80	6	Nil	264	22	Nil
Kexby	39	18	Nil	Nil	83	Nil	Nil
Naburn	122	72	6	Nil	356	23	Nil
North Duffield	105	66	10	Nil	246	35	Nil
Riccall	253	227	15	Nil	700	53	Nil
Skipwith	60	38	4	Nil	158	15	Nil
Stillingfleet	79	43	2	Nil	175	11	Nil
Thorganby	80	60	12	Nil	293	42	Nil
Wheldrake	134	100	16	Nil	359	57	Nil
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2824</b>	<b>2241</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>8356</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>255</b>
Fulford	431	Within the York Waterworks Company's Statutory Area—supplied with water from their mains.					
Heslington	208						
<b>Total Houses</b>	<b>3463</b>						

## HOUSING.

Housing progress at 17th May, 1949:

		Total	Completed	Under Construction	Tenders let or being invited
Barlby	....	54	44	10	—
Dunnington	....	28	6	—	22
Elvington	....	16	8	8	—
Escricks	....	8	—	—	8
Fulford	....	32	32	—	—
Heslington	....	32	32	—	—
Kexby	....	8	—	8	—
Naburn	....	9	3	—	6
North Duffield	....	6	2	—	4
Riccall	....	14	14	—	—
Skipwith	....	6	6	—	—
Stillingfleet	....	10	—	10	—
Thorganby	....	6	4	2	—
Wheldrake	....	6	4	2	—
		—	—	—	—
		235	155	40	40
		—	—	—	—
Total Inspections for all purposes	....	—	....	....	440
Inspections under the Public Health Act	....	....	....	....	241

Rural Housing Survey (Central Housing Advisory Committee

Number of Houses inspected and their Categories:

Cat. 1	Cat. 2	Cat. 3	Cat. 4	Cat. 5
912	211	288	*17	147

\* (Cat. 4 houses also included in Cats. 3 or 5).

Total number of houses liable for inspection in the area 3319

Total number already inspected and classified .... .... 1558

## Squatters—Riccall Airfield.

During the time of the disastrous floods in March/April, 1947, a Rest Centre was established on the No. 1 (W.A.A.F.) Communal Site, Riccall Airfield.

When the Rest Centre ceased to operate, a number of families from Barlby moved in as "squatters," since then additional families from Barlby and areas outside Derwent Rural District (Selby, Bubwith, Hull, etc.) have entered, until at the peak period of September, 1948, 42 families were in occupation.

An adjoining site (No. 5) consisting of brick-built hutments has been converted into 19 dwellings, each with a Living Room, Scullery and two or three Bedrooms, mains water supply and Sink, Cooking Range and a Water Closet. This scheme, which was fully approved by the Ministry of Health, was carried out in 1948, and 19 of the "squatting" families moved from the W.A.A.F. Site into these dwellings on 1st December, 1948. The Ministry of Works, on the families moving out, made the vacated huts on the W.A.A.F. Site untenable to prevent further "squatting."

Numerous complaints have been received from the occupants of the 19 Bungalows on Site 5, concerning dampness. This has been thoroughly investigated, and representatives of the Ministry of Health have also visited the site.

It is considered that the main causes of the dampness are:

- (a) Condensation on the out wall, due to the walls being only  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " thick with no insulating cavity;
- (b) Penetrating dampness, due to the roofs being defective (the roof being a form of reinforced plasterboard covered with tarred felt).

A scheme has been submitted to, and is at present being considered by, the Ministry of Health, with the object of eliminating this dampness. The cost of this scheme is anticipated to be in the region of £4,000, which includes for forming a cavity wall to all outside walls, complete renewal of the roofs with corrugated asbestos, and underdrawing with a suitable form of plasterboard, provisions of eaves, gutters, rain water pipes and necessary surface water drainage, and the erection of a separate external Wash House for each bungalow.

There are still remaining on the W.A.A.F. Site 21 families, and the provision of the basic sanitary requirements, i.e., water supply and removal of refuse, etc., is contemplated, with a view to preventing, as far as possible, any danger to public health; the work being carried out as Agents for the Ministry.

### **SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

The Council has a scavenging scheme embracing the whole of the District, carried out by its own staff, and the work is efficiently performed.

1675 houses in the area are on the Water Carriage system, and 1300 (approx.) are provided with Pail Closets.

Conversions.—8 Conversions to Water Closets were obtained during the year: Barlby 2, Fulford 6.

A scheme for the installation of adequate sewage works in the Parish of Elvington is under consideration, and is being submitted to the Ministry of Health.

### **FOOD SUPPLY.**

Milk.—There are 132 Cowkeepers in the district and 6 Retailers of Milk who are not cowkeepers.

Number of Cowsheds improved in 1948—7.

Pasteurised Milk.—9 samples have been examined, which all satisfied the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests.

Ice Cream.—There is only one producer in the district, whose premises are frequently inspected. Frequent examination of the produce have been made and have proved uniformly satisfactory.

Meat.—Slaughter Houses.—No slaughtering has taken place on these premises other than that of cottagers' pigs. Occasional visits have shown that the premises are being maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Meat Inspection.—The following have been condemned during the year: 15-lbs. Chocolates; 6½-lbs. Canned Meat; 30-lbs. Dried Fruit; 23-lbs. Fresh Fruit; 1134-lbs. Tomato Paste.

Number of Inspections.—Shops 16; Bakehouses 2.

Places in which food is prepared.—No. of Inspections—12.

DERWENT RURAL DISTRICT.  
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1948.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED										CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS		
	At all Ages—Years													
	At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	...	...				
Small-pox ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Erysipelas ... ... ... ...	17	...	3	13	...	...	...	1	...	...	14	...		
Scarlet Fever ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...		
Typhus Fever ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Enteric Fever ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ...	12	...	...	...	3	6	3	...	...	...	...	...		
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Measles ... ... ... ...	36	1	12	22	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Primary Pneumonia ... ...	7	...	...	1	1	3	1	1	...	...	...	...		
Influenza Pneumonia ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Whooping Cough ... ...	33	3	25	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Dysentery ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
<b>Totals</b> ... ...	<b>109</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>...</b>				

